



Data-Driven Outcomes from Law Enforcement Oversight

Denver

Instituted an Office of the Independent Monitor (OIM) in 2005:

1. In 2018 the OIM recommended revisions to the Police Department's use of force policies. In the first 6 months of 2019 the Department reported an immediate, significant 21% decrease in incidents vs. the previous 3 years.
(Source: [Westword](#))
2. FBI statistics show that Denver's violent crime rate fell roughly 8% between 2005, when the Monitor's office launched, and 2018, which were the latest numbers when this source was published.
(Source: [Center for Public Integrity](#))

New Orleans

New Orleans established its Office of the Independent Monitor (OIM) in 2008. Because of its success in helping moderate outcomes based on its recommended policy changes, New Orleans set up a Use of Force Review Board in 2015, which designed a policy requiring footage from body-worn cameras of officer-involved shootings to be released within 10 days, among other changes.

1. Officer-involved shootings in the NOPD went down significantly, from 20 reported in 2012 to 9 reported in 2019.
2. In the year 2018, no officer-involved shootings were reported.

(Source: [ABC News](#))

Los Angeles County

The oversight group reported that it cost the County \$2,000 per person to transfer people to ICE from jail. The Sheriff ended the policy.

Newark

Newark was forced to establish a temporary independent monitor as part of a federal consent decree. That independent monitor is credited with positive changes in policing, including reductions in unconstitutional stops, searches, arrests, excessive force and theft by city officers, while focusing on community engagement. The peaceful nature of Newark's protests over George Floyd's death was attributed not only to the efforts of local residents, but also to recent changes in policing. Among the changes were de-escalation training — required by the consent decree — and the decision not to send police equipped with military gear to the protests. As a direct result, for the first time, there were no police shootings in 2020.

(Source: [KSBY News](#))

Why San Mateo County Needs Community Oversight of the Sheriff's Office

Local data from the [Sheriff's Office data portal](#) show that arrests by the SMC Sheriff's Office significantly disproportionately impact people of color:

July 2021 - June 2022

- Hispanic: 25% of population, 48% of arrests
 - Black: 2% of population, 11% of arrests
 - White: 36% of population, 30% of arrests
- State data also show that Black people are nine times more likely to be arrested in San Mateo County than White people; Hispanic people, twice as likely. (Source: [Public Policy Institute of California](#))
 - In the 5-county Bay Area, Black people are less than 7% of the population, yet were 27% of people killed by police, from 2015-2020. (Source: [San Jose Mercury News](#))
 - Officers in SMC used tasers to kill 3 unarmed people of color in 2018.
 - Despite 19 use-of-force deaths, no officers have been charged during the tenure of the current District Attorney. (Source: [Half Moon Bay Review](#))
 - San Mateo County turned over more than 100 people to ICE, directly from jail, from 2017 to 2020. The SMC Sheriff's Office proactively turned over significantly more immigrants to ICE in 2020 than in the remaining 7 counties of the Bay Area (a policy changed due to community pressure). Number of transfers by Bay Area counties to ICE in 2020:
 Marin, Napa, San Francisco, Santa Clara, Sonoma: 0
 Solano: 1
 Alameda: 8
 San Mateo: 26 (74% of immigrants turned over to ICE of the 8 counties)

Comparison of county oversight structures in California

| County | Year operational | Subpoena power | Inspector General | IG is county employee | Civilian oversight board | Board members |
|----------------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Santa Clara | 2020 | ✓ | ✓ | X | ✓ | 9 |
| Sonoma | 2015 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 11 |
| Sacramento | 2015 | ✓ | ✓ | X | ✓ | 11 |
| Los Angeles | 2014 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 9 |
| San Francisco | 2021 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | 7 |
| San Diego | 1990 | ✓ | X | X | ✓ | 11 |
| Orange | 2008 | ✓ | ✓ | X | X | - |